

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9344

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12097

EXDIS

NESCO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

REF: STATE 107691

SUBJECT: UNESCO 97TH EXBD: CONSULTATIONS WITH ISRAELIS

1. DURING LUNCHEON MAY 14 WITH STULL, ISRAELI ACTING PERMREP YAPOU REITERATED ISRAELI VIEWS, MAKING PARTICULARLY CLEAR HIS SCEPTICISM ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR REVERSING UNESCO POSITIONS ON ISRAEL TAKEN AT 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE AND HIS DOUBTS ABOUT M'BOW'S COMMITMENT TO EFFECTING SUCH A REVERSAL. IT CLEAR THAT YAPOU BELIEVES UNESCO SECRETARIAT FAILED TO CONSULT WITH ISRAELI PERMREP AND IN EFFECT CONTRIBUTED TO DETERIORATION OF ISRAELI POSITION DURING PRESENT EXBD MEETING. YAPOU EXPRESSED DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT THAT NO MEMBER OTHER THAN THE US CHOSE TO EXPRESS ANY RESERVATIONS DURING MAY 9 EXBD VOTE IN COMMISSION APPROVING MEETINGS OF MEDITERRANEAN STATES WITHOUT INCLUSION ISRAEL.

2. STULL MADE CLEAR THAT WHEREAS US REGRETTEED MAY 9 EXBD VOTE AND HAD MADE ITS OPPOSITION EXPLICIT AT TIME, WE LOOK UPON CURRENT EXBD SESSION AS BEGINNING OF PROCESS TO CORRECT 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE POSITION,
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AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO COLLABORATING TO THIS END WITH

ISRAEL, OTHER MEMBER STATES AND UNESCO SECRETARIAT. STULL ADDED THAT SUCCESSFUL RESULT IN THIS ENDEAVOR WOULD ENTAIL EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH ALL CONCERNED AND DEVELOPMENT OF CONSIDERED STRATEGY AND TACTICS LOOKING TO 19 GENERAL CONFERENCE.

3. YAPOU TOOK NOTE OF STULL'S QUESTION CONCERNING CIRCUMSTANCE ISRAEL WOULD PARTICIPATE IN ANY EUROPEAN REGIONAL MEETINGS PRIOR TO 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE, EG. CSCE FOLLOW ON. YAPOU INTERPRETED APPARENT ISRAELI WILLINGNESS TO RECEIVE LEMAIRE VISIT AS CONDITIONED ON REVERSION TO PRE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE TACIT AGREEMENT TO AGREE QUIETLY TO DISAGREE ON IMPORT OF UNESCO PRESENCE. STULL URGED YAPOU TO GIVE M'BOW BENEFIT OF DOUBT AND STRESSED UTILITY OF RE-ESTABLISHING ISRAELI WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH UNESCO SECRETARIAT. YAPOU ADDED THAT ISRAEL HAD GONE TO A NUMBER OF EUROPEAN CAPITALS EXPRESSING DISAPPOINTMENT ABOUT THEIR FAILURE TO SPEAK OUT DURING MAY 9 VOTE. APPARENTLY, YAPOU HOPES SOME EUROPEAN MEMBERS MAY REOPEN MEDITERRANEAN ISSUE IN EXBD PLEANARY MAY 21ST.
RUSH

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